

# **AGENDA & ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONGREGATION OF EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**



## **2023**

777 Mooring Line Drive  
Naples, Florida 34102 ♦ (239) 261-0894  
[www.naplesemmanuel.org](http://www.naplesemmanuel.org)

***“A Christ-centered community where God’s Spirit transforms  
our lives as we worship, learn, love, share and serve.”***

# The 2023 Annual Report is Dedicated in Memory of Those Members Who Entered The Church Triumphant

*NRS Hebrews 12:1-2a "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."*

Phyllis Bernstein  
Don Brown  
Victoria Carillo  
William Cedfeldt  
Gordon Duwe  
James Geist

Avis Holmes  
Dick Kozitka  
Rose Marie Myers  
Dolly Scott  
Mary Semsel  
Katy Starenko

George Stine  
Ann Wasmer  
Carol Waters  
Ellen Wolfe

# A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

The Rev. Elizabeth A.  
Eaton Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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**"I am the vine; you are the branches.**

**Those who abide in me and I in them  
bear much fruit, because apart from  
me you can do nothing." —John 15:5**

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# EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## OUR MISSION

*A Christ centered community where God's Spirit transforms our lives  
as we worship, learn, love, share and serve.*

## CORE VALUES

- **CHRIST CENTERED MINISTRY FOCUS** – Everything we do, in word or deed, reflects our foundational relationship with Jesus Christ, the name above all names. (Matthew 18:20; Colossians 3:17; Philippians 2:9-11, John 14:6)
- **AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE** – The Holy Scripture proclaims God's message to us as both Law and Gospel, revealing judgment and mercy. The Gospel is fully manifested in God's immeasurable love for us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, declaring "the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith." God's grace prepares us in every way, fully equipping us for good works, calling us to love one another as Christ has loved us. (Romans 1:16-17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:8; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Isaiah 40:8)
- **CALLED TO DISCIPLESHIP** – We are each called to be life-long learners, striving for personal and spiritual growth by hearing and doing God's Word. (Colossians 2:6-7; James 1:22; Mark 8:34-35)
- **TEAM MINISTRY IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE MINISTRY** – Everyone has a gift(s), and when we work together as a Team, our ministry is most effective. (1 Peter 2:9; 1 Peter 4:10; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7)
- **RELATIONAL MINISTRY FOCUS** – Every event within our church is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ, which becomes a bridge to deepen our relationships with one another. (John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 12:26-27; 1 Corinthians 13:13; 1 John 4:11)
- **LOST PEOPLE MATTER** – We believe that each of us is commissioned to reach out and share with all people the message of New Life in Christ. (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Luke 15:1-10; Luke 19:10)

## CHURCHWIDE OBJECTIVES: Priorities compiled by the Visioning Team:

Priority Focus: To cultivate a congregational commitment to invite and welcome all people into participation in the life and ministry of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church community.

Priority Focus: To support the establishment of a congregational presence at our second site in eastern Collier County within the context of that growing community.

Priority Focus: To explore innovative and diverse worship opportunities in order to connect with the lives of more people.

Priority Focus: To broaden current and new ministry programs in order to nurture personal and spiritual growth, and provide care for our church community.

Priority Focus: To strengthen our community identity and presence through our commitment to broaden congregational participation in service to our neighbors.

**Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 25, 2024**  
**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order.....Council President, Tom Jackson
2. Hymn & Opening Prayer.....Kathleen Osborn Gerdes and Deacon Jim Cooper
3. Welcome to Our New Senior Pastor .....Rev. David Lillejord
4. Approval of Minutes from last year's Annual Meeting held on January 26, 2023 (Page 6)
5. Approval of All Ministry Reports.....Tom Jackson (Pages 7-27)
  - Administrative Reports as printed.
    - Executive Director Report.....Theresa Shaw
    - Chief Operating Officer Report..... Vivian Hillis
  - Reports from Ministry Departments as printed.
    - Adult Ministry..... Community Care Coordinator Julie Basile, Rev. Rick Bliese
    - Worship & Music Ministry..... Kathleen Osborn Gerdes
    - Youth & Family Ministry, Contemporary Worship.....Jim Cooper, ELCA Deacon
    - Children's Ministry.....Nieves Lebrón, Parish Deacon
  - Emmanuel Community Church Report as printed ..... Rev. José Lebrón
  - Emmanuel Park Community Ministry Report as printed..... Dee-Anne Schleutker, ELCA Deacon
  - Reports from Standing Committees as printed
    - Endowment Fund Committee.....Vivian Hillis
    - Human Resources Committee.....Frank Lester
6. A brief update on Emmanuel's Capital Campaign – Fling Wide the Door.....Bruce Bergman
7. Action on Two Constitutional Changes..... Tom Jackson
  - Number 1: Allowing Associate Members to vote. (slide)
  - Number 2: Limiting Rostered staff to only one vote on Church Council. (slide)
8. Financial Statements for 2023.....Dennis Reustle, Treasurer
  - Approval of the financial Annual Report for 2023
9. Action on 2024 Ministry Budgets and Financial Plan .....Dennis Reustle, Treasurer
  - Approval of the 2024 proposed Budget
10. Closing Comments and Prayer.....Rev. David Lillejord
11. Adjournment

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
**Minutes from Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**January 26, 2023**

Council Vice President, Sylvia Boynton, called the annual meeting to order after we established a quorum of 65 members at 5:33 p.m. (This meeting was conducted via in-person and by Zoom).

Brief update on the work of the Call Committee – Jerry Kerr

The committee completed the Ministry Site Profile and submitted it to the Synod yesterday after the Council's approval. A copy is available to review in the church office. The document will be posted on the ELCA website.

Pastor Will Kittinger gave the opening prayer.

Introduction and Recognition of Council members:

Sylvia announced the Council members – John Rasmussen, Tom Jackson, President, Carlos Dominguez, Secretary, Mark Heckler, Dennis Reustle, Treasurer, Marion Andrews, Jeff Heier, Sylvia Boynton, Vice President and Zetty Rivera. Zetty was presented with a certificate as this was her last term on Council.

Approval of the Minutes from last year's Annual Meeting held on January 25, 2022 – a motion was made by Duncan Cameron, seconded by Ray Schrader to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Steve shared a PowerPoint presentation giving an overview of the church through the years since he started 24 years ago. We are "One Church, Multiple Communities". Emmanuel Lutheran Church was established in 1958. He thanked everyone who participated tonight. He mentioned that Joyce Finley was retiring in May. He mentioned that all the reports from the different ministries were in the annual report. A motion to approve the written reports was made by Duncan Cameron and seconded by Dennis Reustle. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Statements for 2022 – Dennis Reustle

Despite COVID and a hurricane this church continued to give to the mission of Emmanuel.

A motion was made by John Rasmussen to accept the 2022 gifts and pledges, it was seconded by Gary Elsesser and passed unanimously.

Expenses in 2022: staff did a great job keeping expenses down as we spent \$100,000 less than the budget. A motion was made by John Rasmussen to approve the financial annual report for 2022 and seconded by Gary Elsesser and passed unanimously.

Proposed 2023 Budget: We are looking at an increase of \$95,700 for the overall 2023 budget. We have taken into account inflation and increased staff salaries by 8% which Human Resources did approve. We are keeping in line with Social Security as we are trying to retain our employees. The health care costs have increased by \$110,000 and we added a \$25,000 budget for the Call Committee to work with, and our property insurance has increased by 55%. This church continues to reinvent itself. Look at all of the programs that we are doing.

In-person attendance has not been growing however our online presence has grown.

A motion to approve the proposed 2023 Budget as presented was made by Gary Elsesser, seconded by Jan Donnell, and passed unanimously.

Dennis showed a slide to introduce the intention card which will contain the annual pledge for the operating budget along with a pledge for the capital campaign "Fling Wide the Door".

Fling Wide The Door Capital Appeal Update – Bruce Bergman

Bruce spoke briefly about the upcoming capital campaign and asked everyone to pray about it and to keep the momentum going. More information will follow.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Reustle, seconded by Gary Elsesser, and passed unanimously at 6:45 p.m.

Pastor Jose Lebron gave the closing prayer.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Vivian Shea

Dated: 01/27/23

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Theresa Shaw, Executive Director

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### Embracing Our Future with Strength and Vision

As we reflect upon the past year and look forward to embracing our future with hope, determination, strength, and vision, we celebrate the significant strides Emmanuel Lutheran Church has made. The year 2023 was a testament to the faith, resilience, and commitment of our congregation. Faced with challenges, we emerged stronger, united in our mission to serve as a beacon of Christ's love and compassion.

A pivotal goal for this year was the search for and installation of a new senior pastor. The dedicated Call Committee, after an extensive and prayerful search, welcomed Pastor Lillejord to lead our congregation. Pastor Lillejord's arrival marks a new chapter in the life of our church, bringing fresh perspectives and inspiring leadership that aligns with our vision for growth and community engagement.

Our financial footing remains robust thanks to our collective commitment to fiscal responsibility. The church has managed its resources wisely, allowing us to navigate unforeseen events, such as the aftermath of Hurricane Ian. Our Good Samaritan Fund and the church community's heartfelt contributions have been instrumental in providing relief to those affected, underscoring the profound impact of our collective generosity.

The 'Fling Wide the Door...Embracing All in Christ' campaign has been a beacon of progress. The campaign's first phase raised over \$11 million, a remarkable testament to the passion and commitment of the Emmanuel family. This fund lays a strong foundation for the enhancement of our Atrium and wider hospitality area, educational initiatives, and improvements at the Park that will serve our community's needs for years to come.

### Looking Ahead: Campaign and Community Development

With Pastor Lillejord at the helm, we are poised to finalize our campaign plans, reaching out to the wider Emmanuel community for support. Our projects are prioritized, and we are actively fostering partnerships that align with our ministry's values. The campaign's next phase is set to be unveiled in early 2024, mapping out an exciting trajectory for our church's mission and legacy. Our strategic goals have been sharpened to focus on community building through enhanced hospitality and educational opportunities. We remain steadfast in our mission as a Christ-centered community, guided by the Spirit to worship, learn, love, share, and serve. This year, more than ever, we have strengthened the bonds within our church family, emphasizing inclusivity and connection.

### Collaborative Ministry and Operational Excellence

Under the guidance of Pastor Lillejord, the church staff has redoubled its efforts to achieve operational excellence in our ministries. The spirit of collaboration has been a driving force, ensuring that our actions are synchronized with the overarching vision for Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

We stand on the shoulders of those who laid the foundation of this church, and we honor their legacy through our efforts today. The journey continues, and we are filled with gratitude and excitement for what lies ahead. God's work at Emmanuel is ever-evolving, and we eagerly anticipate the blessings and challenges of 2024, confident in our path under God's guidance.

In closing, we extend our deepest thanks to everyone who has played a part in Emmanuel's journey this year. We invite the entire congregation and community to join us as we 'Fling Wide the Door' to the possibilities of tomorrow, embracing all in Christ with open hearts and open arms.

We are energized to continue God's work through the leadership of our new pastor and the unyielding spirit of the Emmanuel family in 2024 and beyond.

Let us move forward together, with faith leading the way.



## CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Vivian Hillis, Chief Operations Officer

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During the past year, our senior pastor and organist retired. We have since filled both positions. We are currently looking to find a Mission Development Pastor for Emmanuel Park Church.

I continue to drive the operational effectiveness of Mooring Line Drive campus. In this position, I coordinate the overall finance and facility operations so that the campus functions efficiently as a lot of behind-the-scenes work gets done during the week that is not seen on Sundays. We also have initiated a Security Training program for all staff and ushers. We have all completed the first part. More training to follow in 2024.

Marcia Jaquith and I, along with Theresa Shaw, work together with the Finance and Stewardship ministry committees to provide oversight of the monthly financial health of the congregation. I also work with the Human Resources and Endowment committees to make sure we are all working toward the same goals. We work diligently to create a budget that the congregation can sustain so that we are able to do the work that is necessary on the campus, as well as to provide opportunities for our congregation to reflect Christ-centered lives through worship, Bible study, events, and educational programs.

This past year, we started a 3-year Capital Campaign called "Fling Wide the Door ... Embracing All in Christ". Projects funded through the Capital Appeal will help to expand access to worship, faith formation, quality theological education and hospitality. A Prospectus has been developed and mailed out. The Prospectus lists all the projects that will be funded through the Capital Appeal. All of this information is available on our website at <https://naplesemmanuel.org/fling-wide-the-door>

Alex Tovar continues to manage our facility maintenance operations. Over the past year we were able to:

- Install choir railings in the choir room and in the loft of the Sanctuary.
- A new banner has been placed in front of our corner sign which is easier to read.
- The preschool classrooms have been recently painted and converted into meeting rooms and new toilets were installed to replace the child-sized toilets.
- The main water pipe for the campus has been replaced.
- Motion detector lights placed in restrooms next to FLC.
- Cameras were installed around the perimeter of the campus.
- Blinds were installed in the Media Center and the four classrooms.

In closing, I want to thank all of our volunteers who assist to make everything run smoothly. Emmanuel depends on your efforts with so many things and what you do is important to expand the reach of every ministry at work here at Emmanuel and out at the Park. At Emmanuel we certainly follow the tagline "God's Work, Our Hands".

*"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32.*





## ADULT EDUCATION, PASTORAL LEADERSHIP AND EMMANUEL ACADEMIES 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Rev. Richard Bliese

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### **Educational Activities:**

The educational program at Emmanuel continues to evolve and grow. I am constantly trying to imagine and re-imagine educational offerings that will serve Emmanuel and its people. This work continues to grow and deepen the congregation's life of faith.

### **Dinners for 6 or 8 - January through April, 2023**

This fellowship initiative, put on hold for 2022, was resurrected for 2023 and 2024. Over 12 groups were formed last year. Although the groups were not as numerous as had been hoped, the reports back from the groups were very strong. We hope to build on those results in 2024.

### **The Sunday Forums - 2023**

The Sunday Forum has become a regular and valued part of our adult educational program. Both the live and online offerings were widely viewed this year. The online videos allow members "up north" to continue to link with Emmanuel education. And the in-person gatherings every Sunday have become important to all both as educational and informative about happenings at Emmanuel. Viewers online range from 60 to 200 most weeks. In person on Sundays ranges from 40 to 70 weekly. After Pastor's Steve's retirement in May, 2023, I shifted the videos to make them "Table Talks." These episodes could be discussed at home, since we didn't have enough pastors to lead them on Sundays. These "Table Talks" proved to be very successful.

### **The Lectionary Bible Study, Worship Matters and Happy Hour at Emmanuel**

The Lectionary Bible study runs as an online taped class. Views range from 35 to 80 each week. Worship Matters gathered from between 4 to 8 people to discuss the sermons from the previous week. Finally, Happy Hour was suspended for this year because of the absence of episodes in series, The Chosen. Happy Hour will be reinstated sometime during the summer of 2024.

### **Brunch, The Bible and Some Love**

This new offering on Thursday has gone well. The number of attendees has grown from 23 in 2022 to 50 in 2023. The reason is now this Thursday session is offered in three ways: in-person (25), livestream (5-6) and recorded (22). The focus is on walking through the whole Bible.

### **Alpha Course**

No Alpha course in 2023.

### **Take Out Tuesdays**

This popular devotional program led by our staff continues to be a vital part of our weekly offerings. Each staff person attracts between 15 and 40 followers each week.

### **New Member Classes**

New member orientation classes have changed dramatically this year. Last year a Zoom call for new members was organized every 3 or 4 months with multiple staff in attendance. In 2022, we taped an orientation video where the staff introduced new members to Emmanuel. After watching the video, new members have various ways to engage the pastoral staff concerning membership. Initial responses have been positive. Each pastor has been conducting many of these orientations privately with new members. With new staff on board, these videos will have to be remade sometime in 2024.

**Pastoral Leadership:**

This area of my duties is growing primarily because of Pastor's Steve's retirement and the increased activities within the congregation over the past 18 months.

Pastoral leadership has taken on more importance over the past 18 months because of Pastor Steve's announced retirement. Duties have increased in the areas of administration, supervision, hospital visitations, funerals, and worship leadership. Numerous meetings and events were organized within the framework of Steve's retirement. The Executive Council has played a stronger role at this time.

In addition, I played a significant role within the two big initiatives carried through over the past 18 months: a. The Call Committee and, b. The campaign, Fling Wide the Door. I dedicated time to both initiatives, as requested.

**Emmanuel Academies:**

The work of Emmanuel Academies continues to grow following the increase in students and the autonomy we are achieving in our curricular development.

My work with Emmanuel Academies takes place, as far as the congregation is concerned, behind the scenes. The work, however, is important and affects the work of the congregation in dramatic ways.

Together with our faculty (Jhon Correa, Clay Schmit) and our CEO, Howard Isaacson, we have recruited almost 45 students in the M.Div. and D. Min programs. The students are there, now we have to deliver quality education. That is my job, along with the whole team. I have particularly played a leading role in mentoring Beatrice D'Angelo. This work has gone amazingly well, but it must be tended to keep quality high. It's a big task.

The biggest development has been the further improvement of our curricular offerings. New courses have been organized and executed along with the establishment of our own growing curricular independence.

In summary, we are discovering that Emmanuel members continue to be open and excited about our education and fellowship opportunities. Online opportunities have provided a marvelous tool for addressing this need. We will continue to explore various options to make classes engaging and more accessible to all our Emmanuel communities both in-season and all year round, and both online and in-person (later this year). Christian education is one of the foundational keys for spiritual growth. As a result, we will continue to commit ourselves to promote education wherever we can, especially using the topic of "Faith, Vocation and Economics" as the umbrella for how we approach Christian discipleship.



## ADULT MINISTRY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Julie Basile, Community Care Coordinator

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### Community Care Coordinator

As the Community Care Coordinator I serve as the primary liaison to the church and the local community. This position provides visitation, support groups and short-term counseling. Julie works with Collier County and Lee County community support groups and disease management groups including the Baker Senior Center, David Lawrence Center, Alzheimer Support Network, NAMI, and others to learn about services offered that will benefit Emmanuel members and families with their services. Mental Health resources, Home Health, Palliative Care and Hospice resources have become a vital part of assisting families with navigating the health system when they need a referral. The coordinator provides a unique alliance between faith, spiritual care and health, functioning collaboratively with the pastoral team and Stephen Ministers to approach these important needs at Emmanuel and in the community. The Community Care Coordinator organizes pastoral visits, oversees visitation needs while liaising with the Pastors and Deacons, ensuring that Emmanuel members are getting the care and personal support they need. A confidential listing of pastoral care needs for follow up by our Pastors and Deacons is kept for the Office Administrator and the Pastors on a weekly basis. Julie is a participant with the Avow Hospice Spiritual Advisory Board. This board discusses community needs like education on palliative vs. hospice care. She writes a community care article on topics concerning self-care, wellness, and spirituality, which is sent out periodically in church e-blasts. Emmanuel staff "self-care" proper mental health practices and reflection are an essential concern in this role and workshops for employees will be developed as this position grows.

### Stephen Ministry

Currently there are thirty active Stephen Ministers, with four currently non-assignable. Seventeen of the remaining twenty-six have Care Receivers. A new Stephen Ministry certification class will take place in 2024. Classes are taught by Bridge Leader, Jim Ulsh, and other assigned Stephen Minister Leaders. Julie Basile, Community Care Coordinator, works with Clayton Blomseth and members of the Stephen Ministry leader team for care receiver and care giver matches. The Stephen Ministry group is equipped with the knowledge of how and when to provide a professional mental health resource for care receivers as needs arise. The Stephen Ministry Leadership board consists of Clayton Blomseth, Julie Basile, Julie Kerr, Jane Haugland, Jim Ulsh, Bob Goodin and Pastor Rick Bliese. If anyone is interested in joining a new class to become a Stephen Minister or would like to receive a Stephen Minister as their Christian care partner, they are invited to contact, Julie Basile, through the church office at 239-261-0894.

### Flower Ministry

Currently, we do not have a flower ministry as we are using artificial arrangements for the altar until further notice. When this ministry returns, we will need three or four people to arrange the altar flowers in small vases so they may be taken by committee members to the homebound. Call the church office if you wish to volunteer for this ministry.

### Learning Ministry

This ministry has classes taught by the pastoral staff of Emmanuel under the direction of Pastor Bliese. There are Thursday morning Brunch and a Book, Alpha Study and Bible Studies led by pastoral staff and lectures by Pastor Bliese which enrich us and achieve our goal of maturing Christians in their faith journey.

### Griefshare Ministry

GriefShare is an international grief program offered in over 12,000 churches across the world. It consists of a sharing circle, video and discussion of Scripture and personal experiences relative to the grief topic on a thirteen-session rotation. The class began in December 2021 and is held twice monthly in the Emmanuel Chapel. All are welcome, including friends of members and the entire community. We are listed on the national website as a GriefShare class location. Julie Basile leads the group with rotating church member volunteer co-chairs, as the group expands. Participants do not need to be a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church and drop-ins (friends and the community) are warmly welcomed. We are listed under "34102" when individuals search for "grief group- Naples".

### Caregiver Support Ministry

This is a support program that has shown interest from our leadership and staff as well as Stephen Ministers ministry and hoped to be included in our budget for 2024 as a need has been determined. Julie Basile would lead this group with specific co-chair members of Emmanuel.

# MUSIC, WORSHIP AND MINISTRIES 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Kathleen Osborn Gerdes, Director for Music and Worship



It's been a blessing and joy to become a part of the ministry team at Emmanuel. It has given me the opportunity to work with a committed staff as one team in establishing our goals and objectives for the year. God has truly provided each of us a special ministry role at Emmanuel in providing quality worship for the body of Christ. I look forward to implementing new ideas and opportunities in music and worship for the people of Emmanuel and into the community of Naples.

## Sunday Worship

We continue to offer meaningful worship in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and provide live-streaming of the 9:00 a.m. service for those who wish to worship online.

## The Emmanuel Choir

The Emmanuel Choir has been supportive of the new direction of the choir in their leadership role at the 9:00 a.m. worship service. The choir rehearses all music and liturgical settings as well as weekly anthems at their regular weekly rehearsals. We have moved our rehearsal time to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesdays to encourage more singers to join us during the daylight hours.

The choir was a part of their first cantata experience in joining with singers from 8-12 other local congregations from Naples and Marco Island in singing "A Child, A King," an ecumenical worship celebration for Advent. The cantata was comprised of 68 singers, two accompanists, and an orchestra. The worship celebration was given at San Marco Catholic Church on Marco Island, and at Emmanuel. The cantata proved to be a very positive worship experience for the singers and all who attended.



## Worship Cantor

We have added a cantor to our 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. worship services to aid in congregational singing and to help with leading the hymns for those viewing the livestream worship service. We wish to thank Jan Gazdic for her time and preparation as a cantor for the two worship services.

## Advent Video Devotions

Pastor Bliese, Kathleen Osborn Gerdes and Jan Gazdic prepared weekly video devotions that could be accessed from our web site to be used during the weeks of Advent.

## Worship Participants

We are grateful for the commitment of those worship participants who give their time to serve as ushers, lectors, acolytes, worship assistants and altar guild. We are always in need of individuals who would like to serve in worship as worship participants at the 9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. worship services in the sanctuary.

We are blessed to have Diedre Milligan as our altar guild coordinator. Diedre continues to provide insight, and hours of preparation as she prepares our sanctuary for each worship service.

## Voices of Grace

We have added a new programmatic offering for children at Emmanuel. Voices of Grace is offered on Wednesday evenings for children in 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The children are exposed to singing and playing musical instruments within a scriptural context. The concepts are reinforced as well on Sunday mornings in Sunday School.



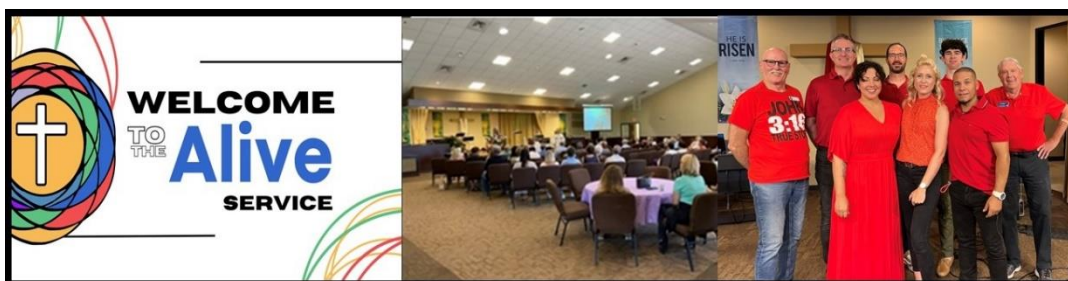
## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES & ALIVE SERVICE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Jim Cooper, ELCA Deacon for Children, Youth, Family, Contemporary Service and AV



We are reminded in first Thessalonians chapter 5:16-18 to “rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” We look back giving thanks with gratitude knowing that God was leading and blessing our ministry again this past year. The major highlights are as follows:

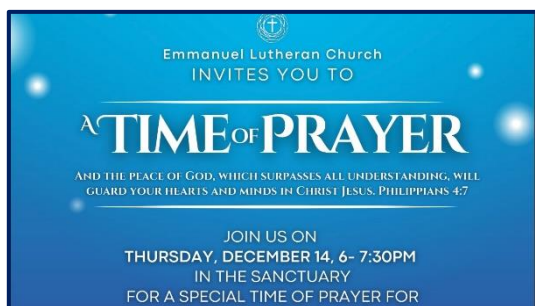
**Executive Responsibility:** I give thanks for the opportunity as a Rostered Deacon to serve our entire church. Given the many challenges and changes these past three years, my role has shifted and continues to evolve.



### Alive Contemporary Worship:

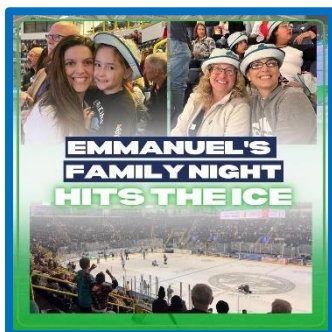
The Alive worshipping community continues to grow and bless people on a weekly basis. Our online presence continues to have influence on Sundays and throughout the week. We give thanks to a wonderful band that leads us into worship every

Sunday. A special service this year was our Easter service where we had more than one hundred people in attendance, great music, a powerful sermon, and we were able to release the “Easter Butterflies” following the service. We also give thanks for the continual growth of the “**Alive Educational Opportunity**,” that invites people after the service to come together to grow in faith and in friendship. We have been studying the books of the Old Testament using the material from the Bible Project.



**A New Prayer Ministry:** On Thursday, September 21, we launched a new prayer ministry at Emmanuel. Given all that has been going on in the world, it was a no-brainer. We decided to start small with a weekly gathering following the Thursday Morning Bible study. It has been wonderful to see the support and commitment to this prayer meeting. Having it follow the Thursday Bible study has worked well. We culminated the year with an exciting churchwide prayer event that was held on December 14. The evening was powerful, and the presence of God filled our hearts as we prayed for our world, our nation, our church and those closest to us. This ministry will continue to grow and evolve in 2024.

**Emmanuel Family Nights:** Emmanuel Family Nights have been successfully running now for three years. The idea of a monthly get-together with families, sharing a meal, good conversation, fun and of course celebrating our faith. There is nothing like forty children dancing and parading around in their Halloween costumes giving thanks for a wonderful night and a great church. The attendance has been very good, ranging from 60-130 at each event. Our goal is always to invite new people to these wonderful family events.



**Winter & Summer Special Trips:** We kicked off the year with a faith family hockey night. More than sixty-five people attended an Everblades game. We filled an entire section. On July 15, we had our summer trip to Typhoon Lagoon in Orlando, one of Disney's water parks. We rented a motorcoach, and we were able to fill it. Fifty-five of us spent the day at this amazing water park. It was an enjoyable time of Christian fellowship and making memories.





**Family Retreat (Year 14):** The theme was THY KINGDOM COME! More than one hundred of us traveled to the wonderful retreat center known as CedarKirk located near Tampa. The weather was great, and God's Spirit was in the air. There was canoeing, shark tooth hunting, line dancing, bingo, nature walks, rock wall climbing and zip line riding. On Sunday morning the retreat culminates with all of us taking a group photo by the cross, and then quietly walking to what is called the Chapel in the Woods. There, we worship the Lord in this beautiful outdoor sanctuary, united in Christ and giving glory to God.



**Service:** We give thanks for the many ways our children, youth and families were able to serve here at Emmanuel, and our collective efforts to serve the community. We are grateful for the opportunity to raise funds for the Good Samaritan Fund at our Family Night events. We are especially grateful for our Emmanuel Team, who together with the church raised more than \$7000 for our local Collier County Boys and Girls Club.



**Youth Scholarship Program:** In May, we awarded scholarships to three graduating high school students and four college students (from left to right; Bailey Kimble, Luanna Ruiz Ross, Colleen Ziegelmaier, Michael Mario, Clara Cunningham, Bridgette Graney and Zach Dawson) with a total of \$8,500 towards their continuing higher education. We have now dispensed \$79,000 over the past 15 years.

**Dinners for Six & Eight:** Emmanuel's annual fellowship ministry, dinners for six and eight continue to be a major blessing to all the church and we look forward to another big turnout this year.



**AV Department:** A BIG THANK YOU to our AV team for their hard work and excellence this past year. Very few people fully realize all that needs to happen behind the scenes to make all our events run smoothly and AV is a big part in all. Special thanks to our AV Coordinator Tom Gordon, and his talented team of AV Operators, Jennifer Ziegelmaier, Ruben Teran and Colleen Ziegelmaier.

Ruben, Tom, Jennifer,  
not pictured Colleen



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Children's Ministry Specialist Nieves Lebrón



*"Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose."*

*Philippians 2:2*

I have felt very blessed in recent years to be part of this great family at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. We have been working together with the same thought and the same purpose, to expand the Kingdom of God in this great city Naples, FL.

As in previous years, the Children's Ministry has continued to work for the spiritual growth of our children and families.

These are some of the highlights of this year 2023:

**Children's Church:** On Sundays we have had a consistent attendance of 9-25 children per week. We also must add the attendance of 14 children in our new "Voices of Grace" Music Program that we started in September of this year.

**Family Night:** It's still happening. For two consecutive years we have been celebrating Family Nights, where children have always been the most important element.



We must mention that the most fun Family Night for them was the celebration of the end of the 2022-2023 school year, rewarding the academic success of each of them. We also had a big celebration at the beginning of this 2023-2024 school year. It is worth mentioning here the blessing of the backpacks and the special prayer for the beginning of the school year. We also celebrated The Harvest Festival, a celebration of the beginning of autumn where the children dressed in costumes, and everyone was awarded for their participation in a great parade.

I should also mention that on one of the Family Nights we all went to watch a Hockey game, which was a great experience for our children as it was the first time they saw a hockey game.

**Family Retreat:** It was really a success this year. As every year it was celebrated at Cedar Kirk Camp and Conference Center. We had good attendance and our children learned more about the Lord's Prayer. Everyone participated in Bible studies related to the topic and activities, games, and fellowship.

**Easter Sunday:** Every year we celebrate Easter Sunday where children have always been an important part of this celebration. After Bible class all the children participated in the egg hunt in the center garden of our church.





**Bible Camp:** This year we held Bible Camp in June 5-9. We had the participation of 4 counselors from Luther Springs. This year's theme was "Dance with Me" our children learned more about the Trinity, more about God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

**Voices of Grace:** For the first time we have a music program for children at our church. On Wednesdays from 6:30 -8:00 pm, we start with dinner for the whole family and then we have Bible studies according to their ages and music classes. The long-term vision for this program is that it can become the Emmanuel Academy of Music. A place that trains new musicians within our community, meets the need for musicians for the church and at the same time is an evangelistic program that reaches those less privileged children, who have the potential, but do not have the necessary means to develop their talent.

Our programs have not only benefited our children and families spiritually, but also culturally they have united our families, our generations and most importantly our diverse faith communities.





Family Night



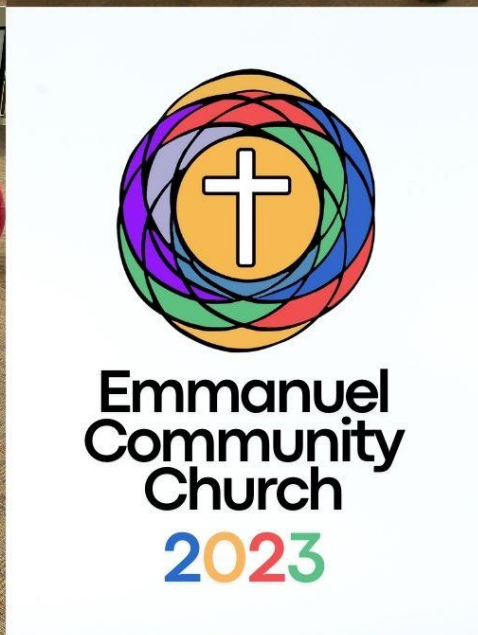
Christmas Party



Bible Study



Summer Bible Camp



Baptism



Family Retreat



Blessing of the Backpacks



Family Night





## EMMANUEL COMMUNITY CHURCH 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Pastor José Lebrón, Frine Donadelli, Admin. Assistant, Nieves Lebrón, Parish Deacon

Emmanuel Community Church is experiencing ongoing growth, extending its blessings to the diverse Naples community. Our multicultural and bilingual environment provides a unique experience for multilingual and multigenerational families.



Family Nights



Family Retreat



Baptism



First Communion

68

AVERAGE  
ATTENDANCE  
PER SUNDAY

4

AVERAGE VISITORS  
PER MONTH

28

NEW MEMBERS

9

BAPTISMS

- Our monthly Family Nights emphasizing the unity of “One Church, Multiple Communities”, maintain an average attendance of 60-100. We used the money collected in our Bingo Nights for our Good Samaritan Fund. Thanks to people’s contributions, we were able to provide assistance to a local organization Hogar RESA, support multiple families in need, and contribute to a mission in Venezuela by sending essential school supplies and basic necessities. The recent Christmas party dinner saw an increased turnout, with 115 attendees.
- We celebrated a wedding (Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>) and a vow renewal (Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>)
- We celebrated Valentine’s Day with a special dinner event for couples. Nineteen couples attended.
- Nieves Lebron led the Women’s Meetings with an average attendance of 15.
- During the Family Retreat, Feb 24 – 2, we welcomed 96 participants. The theme, “Thy Kingdom Come”, explored its significance in personal lives, families, congregations, community, and the world. Additionally, we celebrated a meaningful baptism ceremony at the river.
- On Easter Sunday, we marked our 9<sup>th</sup> ECC Anniversary with a gathering of 135 attendees. Additionally, we reached 6 viewers through Facebook and Live Streaming.
- On September 17, we celebrated two children’s baptisms and six first communions, with a total attendance of 120.
- We hosted three small groups at various locations: Bent Creek (my home community), Golden Gate Community, and Emmanuel Park Church. The average attendance for each group was 10.



- Collaborating with our Music Director Kathleen Osborn Gerdes, Deacon Jim Cooper, and Nieves Lebron, we initiated an innovative music program for children called "Voices of Grace." This program, encompassing dinner, music classes, and faith-strengthening material, played a key role in fostering unity among our diverse communities. Simultaneously with Voices of Grace, we provided an educational opportunity for adults. Initially delivered primarily in Spanish, we adapted to the increased attendance of English speakers and transitioned to offering the program in both languages. The average attendance for adults was 14.

While we still are a mission, working on establishing ourselves as a congregation, we are guided by a well-defined mission deeply rooted in the principles articulated in the "Great Commission" as outlined in Matthew 28:19-20.

*"<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

In our ongoing journey, we're always open to change, embracing new ways of worship, adjusting our liturgy (but not losing energy), and refining how we pray and sing—all while keeping our focus on Jesus.

We're letting the Holy Spirit guide our transformation, aiming to embody a revitalized spirit, akin to being the "new Lutherans" in a constant state of reform. In our staff meetings, Pastor Rick, Deacon Jim, and others frequently highlight the idea that we're in a momentum, a concept I find credible. I recently came across a book where the author likened momentums to waves—they come and go. Just like skilled surfers, we aim to "ride these waves" effectively. This process is not just exciting but also energizing. It's an invitation to witness and be a part of something. "Come and see".



## THE EMMANUEL PARK COMMUNITY (EPC) 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Deacon Dee-Anne Schleutker, *ELCA Deacon for Mission, Service, and Outreach*



### EMMANUEL PARK CHURCH



54% of 2023 Worshipers and New Members from the Caribbean & Latin America



18 Average # children attending Sunday School in 2023



42% of members 19 years and younger



6 Baptisms in 2023  
12 New Members in 2023

### GROWING WITH OUR NEIGHBORS



**Tutoring Program**  
Helping 12 students with their studies



**Volunteering**  
Meals of Hope every Wednesday



**Community Garden**  
121 pounds of sweet potatoes harvested and served.

### LOVING & SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



**27,043**  
People served in 2023 by our Wednesday mobile food bank



**6,300 Volunteer Hours**  
Worked by members of Emmanuel & the community



**Over 2 Million Dollars**  
worth of groceries distributed to our neighbors



## The Emmanuel Park Community – 2023 Kingdom Impact

### Feeding & Loving Our Neighbors



### Caring for Our Park / Installing the Garden Irrigation



### After School Tutoring, Preschool and English as Second Language (ESL)







Our First Bible Camp at Emmanuel Park:  
We had 26 Children participate

### Five Children Ministry Day Camps



### Easter Sunday





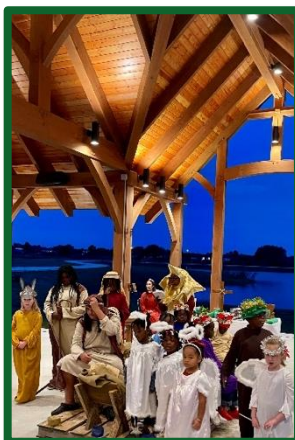
### Our First Worship Service Under the Pavilion



### Christmas Caroling at Solaris Senior Living



### Our First Christmas Eve Under the Pavilion



## **HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE 2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

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The purpose and responsibilities of the Human Resources Committee are: to assist the Church Council, Senior Pastor, Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer with matters relating to all staff positions; to recognize the importance of a staff that is qualified, trained, properly compensated, and retained; and, to provide guidance on new staff position requirements including its job description, salary and benefits. Each year, the chairs of the HR Committee and the Church Council together review the performance of the senior pastor.

The Committee typically meets twice a year to discuss compensation and as needed to help with personnel issues.

The Committee's current congregational members are Jack Dick, Mark Heckler (Church Council liaison), Bill Rosevear, and Frank Lester. Emmanuel staff members are Vivian Shea and Theresa Shaw.

There are openings for two additional congregational members; please contact Vivian Shea if you are interested in joining the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Lester  
Chairperson



## **EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND 2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

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The Endowment Fund is created to receive grants and bequests of monies and or properties, on behalf of the church. The purpose of the fund is to provide support for the mission of Emmanuel Lutheran Church beyond its normal operating budget.

The committee educates and informs the congregation about the Endowment Fund, means of giving to the fund, and acknowledges all contributions to the fund. The committee manages the investments in the fund and oversees distribution of grants in support of the church mission.

2023 Committee Members: Linda Cummings, Gary Elsesser, Theresa Shaw, Vivian Shea, and Jerry Kimble. Sylvia Boynton serves on the committee as the Church Council Liaison. The committee is thankful for the support and assistance of the Church Staff, Church Council and the Church Congregation.

The Endowment Fund consists of three accounts: Missionary, Annuity and Endowment. The Endowment Account is further split into three funds: Perpetuity, Scholarship and Emmanuel Local Outreach. The committee retains the services of HBKS Wealth Advisors to invest and oversee the Endowment Portfolio. This year, through the first eleven months of 2023, the three Endowment Accounts realized an average rate of return of 13.99%.

### **Endowment Fund Distributions:**

1. Missionary Bernice Burke received financial support from the Missionary Account.
2. All Annuity Obligations were funded from the Annuity Account.
  - a. In 2023, the Endowment fund made a matching grant for a water project with Emmanuel Academies for \$11,000.
3. Emmanuel Scholarship Fund gave out \$8,500 to seven students.

Distributions from the growth of Endowment are made annually depending upon appreciation of the Endowment fund assets. Under usual circumstances, gifts made into the Endowment are not spent but are seen as seed to fund future opportunities to do God's work with our hands.

Olive Tree Society: Olive Tree Society Members are Emmanuel members that have provided gifts, bequests, or commitments of Legacy Gifts, now or in the future to ensure future growth of Emmanuel Ministries. The Committee would like to ask you to consider being a member of the Olive Tree Society. Consider gifting as a part of your estate plan. Current gifts can also be made from required distributions from qualified assets as another way to potentially reduce taxable income. Gifting of appreciated investments can also be considered as an efficient way of supporting the Endowment Fund.

Respectfully submitted,  
Vivian Shea  
Chief Operating Officer

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

	Missionary Account	Annuity Account	Endowment Account			
			Perpetuity Fund	Local Outreach Fund	Scholarship Fund	Total
12/31/22 Balance	114,076.24	62,833.90	1,299,218.21	94,515.84	28,522.16	1,422,256.21
2023 Contributions	0.00	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	1,500.00	26,500.00
2023 Fund transfers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2023 Expenses						
other	(16,100.00)	(8,650.00)	(11,000.00)	0.00	(8,500.00)	(19,500.00)
fees	(958.81)	(526.32)	(11,980.84)	0.00	0.00	(11,980.84)
Total Exp.	(17,058.81)	(9,176.32)	(22,980.84)	0.00	(8,500.00)	(31,480.84)
2023 Change in FMV of assets	14,263.15	4,948.32	119,872.78	8,720.53	2,631.61	131,224.92
2023 Investment Income & Gains(Losses)	4,930.32	4,696.72	100,907.01	7,340.81	2,215.24	110,463.06
12/31/23 Ending Balance	116,210.90	63,302.62	1,522,017.16	110,577.18	26,369.01	1,658,963.35
Endowment Fund Total as of December 31, 2023						1,838,476.87

All funds are currently invested and managed by HBKS Wealth Advisors

Missionary Account Expenses include \$16,100 sent to Bernice Burke for the 2023 year for missionary work support, and \$958.81 in Portfolio Service fees to HBKS Wealth Advisors

Annuity Account Expenses include \$8,650 in quarterly payments to the annuitant families, and \$526.32 in Portfolio Services Fees to HBKS Wealth Advisors

Perpetuity and Scholarship Fund Expenses include the following:

11,980.84	Portfolio service fee to HBKS Wealth
8,500.00	Scholarships
11,000.00	Matching grant for "water filter factory"

31,480.84
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## **2023 MEMBERSHIP AND PARISH RECORDS**

Members received by Baptism: 24

Members received by Transfer/Affirmation of Faith: 46

Total Members Received: 70

Members removed by Death: 16

Members removed by Transfer/Request: 11

Total Members Removed: 27

Total Members: 796

Total Associate Members: 135

Total Church Family Membership 2023: 931

2023 Average Sunday Attendance: 553

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Budget 2024

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2023 Budget</b>	<b>2023 Actual</b>	<b>2024 Proposed</b>
Member Giving Pledged	\$ 1,509,513	\$ 1,421,161	\$ Pledge dependent
Member Giving Non-Pledged	\$ 476,862	\$ 489,557	\$
Loose Plate	\$ 119,450	\$ 58,374	\$
ECC	\$ 25,600	\$ 30,664	\$
EPC	\$ 75,000	\$ 51,629	\$
Other	\$ 90,000	\$ 58,986	\$
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,296,425</b>	<b>\$ 2,110,369</b>	<b>\$ 2,527,684</b>

## EXPENSES

Total Administration	\$ 943,221	\$ 829,875	\$ 1,031,168
Adult Learning	\$ 40,686	\$ 38,603	\$ 42,086
Youth Ministries	\$ 10,100	\$ 4,962	\$ 9,635
Children's Ministry	\$ 23,720	\$ 19,796	\$ 29,084
Contemporary Service	\$ 174,513	\$ 159,775	\$ 181,976
Family Ministries/Retreats	\$ 10,725	\$ 8,158	\$ 13,000
Worship & Music	\$ 163,406	\$ 157,893	\$ 141,630
Property	\$ 340,503	\$ 357,947	\$ 444,363
Outreach Ministries	\$ 113,269	\$ 112,135	\$ 112,768
Debt Forgiveness	\$ -	\$ 74	\$ 0

<b>Subtotal ELC</b>	<b>\$ 1,820,143</b>	<b>\$ 1,689,219</b>	<b>\$ 2,005,709</b>
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ECC Administration	\$ 236,567	\$ 237,984	\$ 242,213
ECC Ministries	\$ 23,700	\$ 13,568	\$ 28,300

<b>Subtotal ECC</b>	<b>\$ 260,267</b>	<b>\$ 251,552</b>	<b>\$ 270,513</b>
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EPC Administration	\$ 199,366	\$ 163,004	\$ 211,162
EPC Ministries	\$ 40,500	\$ 10,488	\$ 40,300

<b>Subtotal EPC</b>	<b>\$ 239,866</b>	<b>\$ 173,492</b>	<b>\$ 251,462</b>
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Designated Assets	\$ (23,850)	0	
Total Prefunding	\$ (37,500)	\$ (25,744)	

<b>Total All Locations</b>	<b>\$ 2,296,425</b>	<b>\$ 2,088,519</b>	<b>\$ 2,527,684</b>
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# ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

## OPENING LITURGY

### Son of God, Eternal Savior

Recognizing that our faith is a living, busy, active and mighty thing, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with each of you.

**And also with you.**

Teach us to love you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Descend on our hearts, that we may love others in the ways Jesus loves us.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Empower us to be enthusiastic in pursuing your vision for our congregation.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Move us to engage issues in our community in Christlike ways, and to pursue deep and authentic relationships with those with whom we serve and partner.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Strengthen us to face the barriers we encounter in doing your work, learning to work with others amid disagreement.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Give us the ability to adapt to the cultural, economic and social changes that occur in the neighborhoods we serve.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

Guide us to be a healthy congregation that learns from its failures as well as its successes and offers wisdom to others.

**Receive our prayer, O God.**

As we strive to become the church that we proclaim to be, raise up leaders who focus on the gospel of freedom, forgiveness and reconciliation as given to us through God's indescribable act of love in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Renew us daily in our baptism, that we may discover vitality in our relationships with you, each other and those we serve in the world.

**Amen.**

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:  
 you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,  
 fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Evangelical Lutheran

Worship, 655 Text:

Somerset C. Lowry

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en

Contradansen, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen

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